

IN TRIBUTE TO LOURDES  
CASTILLO-URIBE, PRINCIPAL OF  
THE YEAR 2007

### HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 23, 2007*

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a compassionate leader, an educator, and an advocate for children, Ms. Lourdes Castillo-Urbe. Ms. Castillo-Urbe has served as principal at Escuela Vieau School for 15 years. Vieau School serves Head Start through 8th grade children, 96 percent of whom are of Hispanic descent. Ms. Castillo-Urbe achieved a 95 percent attendance rate at Vieau School, even though 69 percent of the students are bussed. Vieau School is the only P-5 DPI program and bilingual school recognized as high achieving by the Milwaukee Public School district.

Ms. Castillo-Urbe prioritizes knowing the students, their families and their challenges such as lack of healthcare and food insecurity. For example, 95 percent of Vieau School students qualify for free or reduced lunch. Ms. Castillo-Urbe knows a positive early school experience strongly influences the future academic success of children in poverty. She sets high expectations for students and teachers and encourages creative thinking from teachers. She instituted the High Scope model for family involvement, providing daily opportunities for parental involvement in the academic and social lives of their children during school hours and after school in their Community Learning Center.

For her commitment to our children and for her many efforts and gifts, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and the Association of Wisconsin School Administrators named Ms. Castillo-Urbe as Principal of the Year from the Milwaukee Public School system for 2007.

Ms. Castillo-Urbe's belief in ongoing professional development for teachers has lead Vieau School to become a training and professional coaching school. Instructional Practice Inventory, IPI, is a new initiative focusing on both high expectations and best practices for teachers. All the classroom teachers at Vieau are guided and mentored by teachers who are trainers and coaches for IPI.

Ms. Castillo Uribe has formed a number of private/public partnerships to provide programs for students. The partnerships include: the Helen Bader Foundation, Medical College of Wisconsin, Alverno College, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, United Migrant Opportunities Services, UMOs, Wisconsin Hispanic Scholarship Foundation, Mexican Fiesta, Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, and Wisconsin Hispanic Professional Association.

Ms. Castillo-Urbe graduated cum laude with a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in curriculum and instruction from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons, I am honored to pay tribute to M. Castillo-Urbe who has dedicated her life toward educating and improving the lives of the children in the Fourth Congressional District and is an outstanding recipient of the Principal of the Year award.

HONORING ALDEN WILSON

### HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 23, 2007*

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alden Wilson, who announced recently that he will be stepping down as Director of the Maine Arts Commission. Alden has been a fixture in Maine's cultural landscape for over three decades.

Under Alden's leadership, the Maine Arts Commission has become an example for similar commissions in other states to follow. One of the keys to the Commission's success has been Alden's ability to bring together artists, community members, and policy makers to focus on common goals.

The arts are a fundamental building block in our regional economies and are vital to our communities. Serving as director of the Maine Arts Commission for 33 years, Alden focused the group on the cultivation of Maine's creative economy. In large part because of Alden, Maine enjoys a vibrant arts landscape that spreads to every corner of the state.

Alden leaves an organization with a strong vision and a record of success. I have had the joy of working with Alden during my time in the Maine State Legislature, and now, while serving in Washington.

I wish Alden the very best in the future as he pursues new opportunities.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL  
CHARLES ELWOOD "CHUCK"  
YEAGER

### HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 23, 2007*

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Major General Charles Elwood "Chuck" Yeager and the 60th Anniversary of breaking the "Sound Barrier." Both the accomplishment and the man responsible for it serve as lessons in what we can achieve as a nation.

In 1947, when young Captain Yeager raced across the sky faster than the speed of sound, the United States was still new to its role as a world power. The sound barrier represented a principle of nature. By breaking it, Yeager showed the world America's endless potential for innovation.

Yeager's early life prepared him well to become a fighter pilot. Born in Boone County, West Virginia, he grew up hunting and working in his father's repair shop. These skills later served him well as a pilot. At the tender age of 18, Yeager enlisted in the Army Air Corps.

Yeager served as a pilot in England during World War II. On one mission, he was shot down over France. Showing remarkable resilience he evaded capture and returned to Britain to fly. Yeager was never shot down again. He finished the war as a Captain, totaling 12½ kills, including an impressive five in one day.

After the war, he became a test pilot in the Air Corps' Research and Development Program. On October 14, 1947 he was given a chance to break the sound barrier in an X-1 rocket powered jet.

Yeager's flight has grown into legend over the years due in large part to breaking his ribs just days before the flight. Hiding his injuries from his superiors, he needed a rigged broom handle just to close the plane's hatch. Despite the pain, Yeager flew into history, reaching March 1.6, a speed of 700 miles per hour.

It was 6 months before the public was informed of Yeager's achievement. He nonetheless became a hero and was labeled the "fastest man alive." It was a name he did his best to live up to, continuing to fly faster and higher than anyone. Over the course of his career Yeager rose through the ranks, commanding fighter bombing squadrons during the Korean and Vietnam wars and mentoring up and coming pilots at the Aerospace and Research Pilot School.

Chuck Yeager's life of service is a model for all Americans and by breaking the sound barrier he inspired the next generation of heroes to grand achievements of their own, including: the space program and the Moon landing.

Just as was the case in 1947, our Nation today continues to face unprecedented challenges, but we should find strength from this moment in history and from heroes like Chuck Yeager that our nation will continue to break new barriers and reach new heights.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ALBIO SIREs

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 23, 2007*

Mr. SIREs. Madam Speaker, on October 22, 2007, I missed rollcall vote Nos. 983, 984, and 985. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall 983, "yes" on rollcall 984, "yes" on rollcall 985. In addition, I want to express my strong support for H.R. 189, legislation introduced by Congressman BILL PASCRELL to establish the Paterson Great Falls National Park in Paterson, New Jersey. I regret having missed the opportunity to cast a vote in favor of the establishment of this park, which will provide all northern New Jersey residents as well as all Americans continued access to this historic landmark.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT RONALD  
PHILLIP ALLEN, JR.

### HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 23, 2007*

Mr. McINTYRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to LT Ronald Phillip Allen, Jr. of Tar Heel, North Carolina, for serving his community as a dedicated volunteer with the Tar Heel Fire Department. On the morning of September 22, 2006, Lieutenant Allen was tragically killed in an accident with an oncoming car while marking hydrant locations along North Carolina Highway 87.

The American scholar, William Arthur Ward, once said, "Greatness is not found in possessions, power, position, or prestige. It is discovered in goodness, humility, service, and character." Lieutenant Allen led such a life.

As a Bible school teacher, Lieutenant Allen shared his faith and the goodness it instilled